

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A duplication controlling method for controlling duplication  
by embedding an electronic watermark indicating control information  
5 regarding duplication into contents comprising digital information,  
wherein the electronic watermark includes change position information  
indicating a change position of contents of the control information.

2. The duplication controlling method according to claim 1,  
10 wherein the change position information indicates an end position of the  
contents in which the electronic watermark is embedded.

3. The duplication controlling method according to claim 1,  
15 wherein the change position information indicates a position where the  
contents of the control information indicated by the electronic watermark  
containing this change position information change to the subsequent  
contents.

4. The duplication controlling method according to claim 1,  
20 wherein the electronic watermark contains contents information  
indicating the contents of the control information which is started from  
the change position.

5. The duplication controlling method according to claim 1,  
25 wherein a plurality of change positions contained in the electronic  
watermark are recorded as a table.

6. The duplication controlling method according to claim 1, wherein the table contains contents information indicating the contents of the control information which are started from a plurality of the change positions.

7. A duplication controlling apparatus for controlling duplication by embedding an electronic watermark indicating control information regarding duplication into contents comprising digital information, comprising

an embedding device for embedding the electronic watermark into the contents,

wherein the electronic watermark contains change position information indicating a change position where the contents of the control information are changed.

8. The duplication controlling apparatus according to claim 7, wherein the change position information indicates an end position of the contents in which the electronic watermark is embedded.

9. The duplication controlling apparatus according to claim 7, wherein the change position information indicates a position where the contents of the control information indicated by the electronic watermark containing this change position information change to the subsequent contents.

10. The duplication controlling apparatus according to claim 7, wherein the electronic watermark contains contents information

indicating the contents of the control information which is started from the change position.

11. The duplication controlling apparatus according to claim 7, wherein the change position information contained in the electronic watermark is recorded as a table indicating a plurality of the change positions.

12. The duplication controlling apparatus according to claim 11, wherein the table contains contents information indicating the contents of the control information which are started from a plurality of change positions.

13. The duplication controlling apparatus according to claim 7, further comprising a delivery device for delivering the contents having the electronic watermark embedded by the embedding device.

14. A recording medium having an electronic watermark indicating control information regarding the duplication of contents comprising digital information,

wherein the electronic watermark includes change position information indicating a change position of the contents of the control information.

15. The recording medium according to claim 14, wherein the change position information indicates an end position of the contents in which the electronic watermark is embedded.

16. The recording medium according to claim 14, wherein the change position information indicates a position where the contents of the control information indicated by the electronic watermark containing this change position information change to the subsequent contents.

17. The recording medium according to claim 14, wherein the electronic watermark contains contents information indicating the contents of the control information which is started from the change position.

18. The recording medium according to claim 14, wherein the change position information contained in the electronic watermark is recorded as a table indicating a plurality of the change positions.

19. The recording medium according to claim 18, wherein the table contains contents information indicating the contents of the control information which is started from a plurality of change positions.

20. A duplication controlling apparatus for performing control in accordance with duplication-related control information embedded in contents comprising digital information, comprising

an electronic watermark reading device for reading an electronic watermark;

a change position detection device for detecting a change position of the control information; and

a control device for modifying the processing of the duplication

controlling apparatus when the change position is detected by the change position detection device,

wherein the electronic watermark contains change position information indicating a change position of contents of the control information.

21. The duplication controlling apparatus according to claim 20, wherein the change position information indicates an end position of the contents in which the electronic watermark is embedded.

22. The duplication controlling apparatus according to claim 20, wherein the change position information indicates a position where the contents of the control information indicated by the electronic watermark containing this change position information change to the subsequent contents.

23. The duplication controlling apparatus according to claim 20, wherein the change position information contained in the electronic watermark is recorded as a table indicating a plurality of the change positions.

24. The duplication controlling apparatus according to claim 23, wherein the table contains contents information indicating the contents of the control information which is started from a plurality of the change positions.

25. The duplication controlling apparatus according to claim 20,

wherein the electronic watermark contains contents information indicating the contents of the control information which is started from the change position, and

the control device modifies the processing in accordance with the contents information contained in the electronic watermark.

26. The duplication controlling apparatus according to claim 20, further comprising a reproduction device for reproducing the contents is provided, wherein

the reproduction device is controlled by the control device.

27. The duplication controlling apparatus according to claim 20, further comprising

a recording device for recording the contents is provided, wherein

the recording device is controlled by the control device.

28. The duplication controlling apparatus according to claim 20, further comprising a reception device for receiving the contents are provided, wherein

the reception device are controlled by the control device.

29. A program embodied on a computer-readable medium for causing a computer to execute an embedding processing of an electronic watermark indicating duplication-related control information into contents comprising digital information, the program causing the computer to function as:

an inserting device for inserting change position information indicating a change position of contents of the control information into the electronic watermark; and

an embedding device for embedding the watermark into the contents.

30. The program embodied on a computer-readable medium according to claim 29, wherein the change position information indicates an end position of the contents in which the electronic watermark is embedded.

31. The program embodied on a computer-readable medium according to claim 29, wherein the change position information indicates a position of switching from the contents of the control information indicated by the electronic watermark containing the change position information, to the subsequent contents.

32. The program embodied on a computer-readable medium according to claim 29, wherein the electronic watermark contains contents information indicating the contents of the control information which is started from the change position.

33. The program embodied on a computer-readable medium according to claim 29, wherein the change position information contained in the electronic watermark is recorded as a table indicating a plurality of the change positions.

34. The program embodied on a computer-readable medium according to claim 33, wherein the table contains contents information indicating the contents of the control information which is started from the plurality of change positions.

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35. A computer data signal embodied in a carrier wave and representing a sequence of instructions for causing a computer to execute an embedding processing of an electronic watermark indicating duplication-related control information into contents comprising digital information, the instructions comprising:

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an inserting step for inserting change position information indicating a change position of contents of the control information into the electronic watermark; and

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an embedding step for embedding the watermark into the contents.

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36. The computer data signal embodied in a carrier wave and representing a sequence of the instructions according to claim 35, wherein the change position information indicates an end position of the contents in which the electronic watermark is embedded.

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37. The computer data signal embodied in a carrier wave and representing a sequence of the instructions according to claim 35, wherein the change position information indicates a position of switching from the contents of the control information indicated by the electronic watermark containing the change position information, to the subsequent contents.



38. The computer data signal embodied in a carrier wave and representing a sequence of the instructions according to claim 35, wherein the electronic watermark contains contents information indicating the contents of the control information which is started from the change position.

39. The computer data signal embodied in a carrier wave and representing a sequence of the instructions according to claim 35, wherein the change position information contained in the electronic watermark is recorded as a table indicating a plurality of the change positions.

40. The computer data signal embodied in a carrier wave and representing a sequence of the instructions according to claim 39, wherein the table contains contents information indicating the contents of the control information which is started from the plurality of change positions.